

DOD LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR 1961

DOD PROGRAM NO.: 87-118

BILL NO.:

SHORT TITLE: Missing Persons Act, Extend to Personnel Lost or Detained
Other Than Under Wartime Battle Conditions

DOD ACTION AGENCY: Air Force

AIR STAFF AGENCY OF PRIMARY INTEREST: DCS/Personnel

PURPOSE: This proposal would provide specific authority in the application of the Missing Persons Act (MPA) (50 U.S.C. App. 1001 et seq.) to persons in the Federal service whose accounts and affairs are determined under the Act, during those periods when a state of war does not exist. It would clarify the definition of "missing persons" by identifying, as an additional category, those persons who are "detained in a foreign country against his (their) will." This terminology would include any situation which would involve persons who are separated from their organizations or interrupted in their assignments by the action of a foreign power. Exceptions to this general rule would be cases in which an official determination of the head of the department concerned (50 U.S.C. App. 1009) would bar an individual from receipt of the benefits provided by the Act, i.e., absence without authority, imprisonment by a court having jurisdiction under Status of Forces agreements, etc. It would also re-establish the former policy of delay in Federal income tax reporting and payment and clarify other administrative matters pertaining to the affairs of such individuals.

STATUS: In the Department of Defense for coordination.

ACTION OFFICER: Lt Colonel Jack Reiter

COMMITTEES: Armed Services

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